



Park Avenue Synagogue Bulletin

Volume XLV, No. 4

Kislev-Tevet 5754

December, 1993

Sherr Institute Adult Education Course

The World of Russian and Eastern European Jewry

With Samuel Norich, former executive director, YIVO Institute for Jewish Research. November 30, December 7, 14 – 7-8:15 P.M. Tuition: \$30 for members; \$40 for non-members.

A political and sociological overview after the fall of the U.S.S.R. by a former vice president of the World Jewish Congress. The impact of Communism on anti-Semitism; beginnings of free expression under Glasnost; Jewish remnants in the Baltics, Ukraine, and Poland.

Lunch and Study With Rabbi Zaiman Thursday, December 9

Please join Rabbi Elana Zaiman for a lunch and study session on Thursday, December 9th from 12 Noon to 1 P.M. The topic will be: "Cain spoke to his brother Abel." (Genesis 4:8) There is more to this relationship than meets the eye. Come study the Midrashic interpretation.

All members of the congregation are welcome to attend. Since lunch will be provided, please call Sandy Zimmel at the synagogue office (369-2600) immediately to make your reservation.

Congregational Shabbat Dinner & Hanukkah Celebration Friday, December 10, 1993 7:00 P.M.

following the Friday Evening Service at 6:15 P.M.

(hosted by the Men's Club and the Couples Club under the auspices of the Shabbat Dinner Committee)

\$25 per person
\$10 each for children under 8 years of age

Please call the synagogue office today (369-2600) to make your reservation!

The Men's Club Project Ezra Hanukkah Luncheon and Party Sunday, December 12

For the 19th consecutive year, the Men's Club of the Park Avenue Synagogue will once again sponsor a Hanukkah luncheon and party for Project Ezra's elderly Jewish men and women. This event will take place on Sunday, December 12th from 11:30 A.M. to 3 P.M.

As it does every year, the Men's Club will bring these senior citizens to the Park Avenue Synagogue by bus for lunch, Hanukkah gifts, singing, and entertainment. Men's Club members, along with students in the Judah Nadich High School, will participate in a celebration of Hanukkah that bridges the generations and makes this annual event an especially meaningful and joyous mitzvah.

If you are a Men's Club member, plan to participate in this heartwarming wonderful party. It will do your heart much good!

WEG Hanukkah Celebration

Members of the Women's Evening Group are invited to a Hanukkah Party on Monday evening, December 13th at 6:30 P.M. The candles will glow and the wine will flow at this *for members only* event at the home of Joan Scheffler.

Israeli musician Michael Abromovich will perform. A talented young pianist, he was named the outstanding musician of the Israel Defense Forces during his service from 1989 to 1992. Currently a student at the Manhattan School of Music, he has performed extensively in Europe as well as in Israel.

A pot luck supper will be provided by members and the entrance fee will be a wrapped toy (valued at \$5 to \$10) for a needy child which will be distributed during the holidays.

Members should call either Mimi Sunkin at 988-3684 or Karen Frankel at 996-9397 to make their reservations and to discuss their pot luck supper contributions for this very special event.

Jewish Book Discussion Group Monday, January 10, 1994 8 to 9:15 P.M.

Book Fair 5754/1993 The Annual Parents Association Fundraising Event

Jewish books for all ages and interest groups!

Dates and times:

Sunday, December 5 - 12 Noon to 5 P.M.
Monday, December 6 - 11 A.M. to 8 P.M.
Tuesday, December 7 - 11 A.M. to 8 P.M.
Wednesday, December 8 - 11 A.M. to 8 P.M.

To help set up and clean up on December 3rd and 9th, please call co-chairpersons Barbara Sassoon at 288-5315 or Joan Schreiber at 524-8431.

Sisterhood Annual Gala Luncheon and Fundraising Event Wednesday, December 15 11:30 A.M.

The luncheon will be followed by a musical program and the drawing of prizes and gifts.

The sale of one booklet of ten raffles for \$70 insures your admission. For extra raffle books, please phone Ernestine Bernstein at 362-4894.

If you have not already done so, make your reservation by sending your check for \$70, made payable to Sisterhood, today! Don't miss this wonderful annual event!

Shabbat Lunch & Lecture December 11

Debra Braverman, treasurer of the Jewish Genealogical Society, will be the guest speaker at the Shabbat Lunch and Lecture on Saturday, December 11th at 12:15 P.M. She will discuss: "Tracing Our Roots in Eastern Europe."

Ms. Braverman, who recently took an extensive trip to Ukraine and Moldavia, will share her experiences in searching for her roots in her family's place of origin.

Pre-paid reservations for each lunch and lecture are required; there will be a moderate charge for lunch. Please call the synagogue office (369-2600) to make your reservation for this interesting talk.

PARK AVENUE SYNAGOGUE

Agudat Yesharim

50 East 87 Street

New York, N.Y. 10128

Synagogue Office: 369-2600

School before 9 A.M.: 831-8686

*Affiliated with The Jewish**Theological Seminary of America and the
United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism*

Judah Nadich.....Rabbi Emeritus

David H. Lincoln.....Rabbi

Elana Zaiman.....Assistant Rabbi

David Lefkowitz.....Cantor

Judith Naimark.....Assistant Cantor

Alan Levine.....Chairman of Board

Robert P. Antler.....President

Barrie Modlin.....Executive Director

Ann Eisenberg.....Editor

Plaza Memorial Chapel

Funeral Directors

From The Rabbi's Desk

In a wonderful book on the Jewish holidays entitled *Seasons of Our Joy*, Arthur Waskow writes the following: "By the twenty-fifth of Kislev, we are ready to experience the moment of winter that was foreshadowed by Sh'mini Atzeret. By the twenty-fifth of every lunar month, the moon has gone into exile. The nights are dark, and getting darker. And late in Kislev, we are close to the moment of the winter solstice-when the sun is also in exile. The day is at its shortest and the night at its longest, before the sunlight begins to return. It is the darkest moment of the year, the moment when it is easiest to feel despair."

"At this dark moment, we celebrate Hanukkah-the Feast of Dedication-by lighting candles for eight nights. Night after night, the candle-light increases. And night after night, we make our way into, through, and out of the darkness of the sun and moon. We experience and feel the turn toward light from the moment of darkness, the turn toward salvation from the moment of despair."

Waskow eloquently points out the importance of Hanukkah-the Festival of Lights-at this the darkest time of the year. Says the prophet Micah, "When I sit in darkness, the Lord will be a light to me." (7:8)

A prayer: Just as we fill our homes with the light of the Hanukkah candles, so may our lives be blessed with God's light.

— Rabbi Elana Zaiman

**Weekly Shabbat Morning
Havurah Service**

If you are interested in learning the liturgy of the Sabbath Service, how to lead the service, read Torah or Haftarah, or conduct discussions in a small intimate environment, please join the Havurah Service which meets Shabbat mornings in the Edmond de Rothschild Library.

Schedule of Religious Services

Friday evening, December 3.....6:15 P.M.

Vav Grade Kabbalat Shabbat Service & Dinner

Saturday morning, December 4.....9:15 A.M.

Havurah Service.....9:15 A.M.

Bat Mitzvah of Emily Gopstein

daughter of Doron and Theresa Gopstein

Friday evening, December 10.....6:15 P.M.

Congregational Shabbat Dinner & Hanukkah Celebration

Hosted by the Men's Club and the Couples Club under the auspices

of the Shabbat Dinner Committee

(By Advance Reservation Only)

Saturday morning, December 11.....9:15 A.M.

Havurah Service.....9:15 A.M.

Bar Mitzvah of Zia Lennard

son of Mrs. Diane Lennard

Friday evening, December 17.....6:15 P.M.

Park Avenue Synagogue Singles Service & Oneg Shabbat.....8:15 P.M.

Saturday morning, December 18.....9:15 A.M.

Havurah Service.....9:15 A.M.

Bat Mitzvah of Rebecca Spinner

daughter of Arthur and Carol Spinner

Friday evening, December 24.....6:15 P.M.

Saturday morning, December 25.....9:15 A.M.

Havurah Service.....9:15 A.M.

Friday evening, December 31.....6:15 P.M.

Saturday morning, January 1.....9:15 A.M.

Havurah Service.....9:15 A.M.

Bar Mitzvah of Drew Kovacs

son of Steven and Gaye Kovacs

Rabbi David H. Lincoln and Rabbi Elana Zaiman will preach and conduct the services together with Cantor David Lefkowitz and Cantor Judith Naimark and the Synagogue Choir, with Neil Robinson at the organ.

Babysitting is available for children 2 to 5 years of age every Saturday morning from 9:15 A.M. to 12 Noon.

Condolences

Park Avenue Synagogue extends heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved of our congregation and to their families. To:

Dr. Manfred Brust, upon the death of his mother, Chaye Cyrel Brust.

Mrs. Bernice Forman Friedman, upon the death of her father, Harry A. Forman.

Mr. Irving Friedman, upon the death of his sister, Anna Friedman.

Mrs. Minnie Helman, upon the death of her husband, Judge Nathaniel T. Helman.

Mrs. Bernice Meltzer, upon the death of her brother, Irving Jablon.

Mrs. Gabrielle Propp, upon the death of her husband, Seymour Propp.

Mr. George M. Shapiro, upon the death of his brother, Manny Shapiro.

To the family of the late Sylvia Sporn.

For your Hanukkah gift-giving needs, shop the Park Avenue Synagogue Gift Shop, Judaica Classics by Doina. See page 5.

**Park Avenue Synagogue Singles
Friday Evening Service
December 17**

The PASSingles Group for Jewish men and women aged 40+ will be holding its monthly Friday Evening Service, led by Rabbi Elana Zaiman and Cantor Judith Naimark, on December 17th at 8:15 P.M. The topic will be: "...Degrees of Separation." An Oneg Shabbat will follow the service.

Winter is coming. Don't forget the Daily Minyanim. They will need your participation.

Celebrating Hanukkah

When?

Hanukkah is celebrated for eight days beginning on the 25th day of Kislev which corresponds to the evening of Wednesday, December 8th through sundown, Thursday, December 16th.

Why?

Lights are kindled in the menorah, or Hanukki-ah, on each of the eight nights of Hanukkah to commemorate the miraculous victory of the Jews over the Syrian Greeks in the Second Century, B.C.E. A small cruze of oil was found when the Temple was rededicated which surprisingly lasted for eight days instead of the expected one day, making it possible for the Jews to purify more oil for the lamp in that period of time.

The rabbis tell us that just as a small amount of oil casts a great deal of light, so did a few Jews stand against the many and the mighty in order to preserve their faith.

How?

A menorah has places for eight lights and one more light, the ninth, called the shamash. Generally, wax candles are used, although some menorahs are made to be used with oil and a wick.

On the first evening, the first candle is placed on the RIGHT side of the menorah. Then on each succeeding night, a candle is added to the LEFT. The shamash is lit first and the following blessings are said:

Barukh Atah Adonai Elohainu Melekh Hao-lam asher kidshanu b'mitzvotav v'tzivanu I'hadlik ner shel Hanukkah.

Praised are You, Lord Our God, King of the Universe, who has made us holy through His commandments and who has commanded us to kindle the Hanukkah light.

Then:

Barukh Atah Adonai Elohainu Melekh Hao-lam, she-asah nisim la-avotainu bayamin hahem baz-man hezeh.

Praised are You, Lord our God, King of the Universe, who performed miracles for our ancestors in those days, at this time.

On the first night only, the Sheheheyanu is added:

Barukh Atah Adonai Elohainu Melekh Hao-lam, sheheheyanu v'kee-y'manu v'hee-gee-anu lazman hezeh.

Praised are You, Lord our God, King of the Universe, who has kept us in life, sustained us and enabled us to reach this season.

Then the shamash is used to kindle that evening's lights. The kindling always starts on the LEFT with the candle which has been added for the new day and continues by moving to the right.

On Friday night, the Shabbat candles are lit after the Hanukkah lights are lit.

The menorah is often placed at a window, if

practical, to give public recognition to God's deliverance of the Jews.

Special attention should be given to children's involvement in kindling the lights. In many families more than one menorah is lit, the children lighting their own.

Customs?

After lighting Hanukkah candles or lights, it is customary to sing Hanukkah songs and to eat potato latkes (pancakes) with either applesauce or sour cream. In Israel, fried donuts instead of latkes are eaten.

In the United States, it has become customary for children to receive Hanukkah "gelt" (money), Hanukkah chocolate candies, and to play with dreidels. Also, family members tend to exchange Hanukkah gifts in a "Jewish way" of expressing their love for one another.

Hanukkah is also a perfect time and excuse for having Hanukkah parties—a way of celebrating this victorious aspect of our Jewish history.

Notes From The Edmond de Rothschild Library

Please bring your children to view and borrow from the library's extensive and beautiful Hanukkah book collection now on display.

The Edmond de Rothschild Library is pleased and proud to announce the acquisition of the following new books (including many new books for very young children and for 3 to 6 year olds).

New Adult Books:

Berger: *A Daughter's Gift of Love*

Birmingham: *Carriage Trade*

Chernow: *The Warburgs*

Dresner: *The Jewish Dietary Laws*

Fast: *The Trial of Abigail Goodman*

Isaacs: *After All These Years*

Jacobs: *The Book of Jewish Belief*

Jacobs: *The Book of Jewish Practice*

Jewish Book Annual, vol. 50, 1992-1993

Jewish Book Annual, vol. 51, 1993-1994

Kanfer: *The Last Empire*

Kling: *Embracing Judaism*

Kolatch: *This is the Torah*

Netanyahu: *A Place Among the Nations*

Ostrovsky: *Lion of Judah*

Oz: *Fima*

Roiphe: *If You Knew Me*

Rosenbaum: *Betrayal-Untold Story of the Kurt*

Waldheim Investigation and Cover-up

Segev: *The Seventh Million*

Strassfeld: *The Jewish Holidays*

Szeman: *The Kommandant's Mistress*

New Juvenile Books:

Aroner: *The Kingdom of Singing Birds*

Brodman: *The Gift*

Burstein: *The Jewish Kids' Hebrew-English Workbook*

Cowan: *A Torah is Written*

Edwards: *Blessed Are You-Traditional Everyday Hebrew Prayers*

Jaffe: *The Uninvited Guest*

Junior Jewish Encyclopedia (new edition)

Lepson: *Hillel Builds a House*

Levitin: *Annie's Promise*

Rouse: *Sammy Spider's Hanukkah*

Toll: *Behind the Secret Window-A Memoir of a Hidden Childhood During World War II*

Weilerstein: *K'tantan's Sukkot Adventure*

Zalben: *Happy New Year, Beni!*

The library will be closed from Sunday, December 19th through Sunday, January 2nd, 1994 and will reopen on Monday, January 3rd at 3 P.M.

Park Avenue Synagogue's Tikkun Olam Committee Assists Bosnian Mother and Her Sick Child

The Bosnian tragedy, so sadly reminiscent of the horrors that befell Jews during the thirties and forties, leaves most of us feeling powerless. In our small way, however, Park Avenue Synagogue is doing its duty of *tikkun olam* and making a difference through the Committee For The Homeless and Community Outreach. The committee is giving assistance to a young Muslim woman from Sarajevo and her two-year old daughter who are in New York (under the auspices of Mayor Dinkin's Mosaic to Mosaic, New York-Sarajevo Project) to obtain emergency medical care for the child. During the recuperation period (the child received treatment from Mount Sinai Hospital which donated its services and her prognosis is excellent) and until they are able to return to Bosnia, our committee will provide assistance to them in the form of clothing and other such basic necessities.

Members of the New York-Sarajevo Project include Harold Robles of the Albert Schweitzer Foundation and Bianca Jagger. For further information regarding donations or activities, please contact either Linda Charet at 686-2600, ext.104 (w); 628-1653 (h) or Karen Frankel at 719-3232 (w); 996-9397 (h).

Audio-Visual Equipment Is Needed By the Religious Schools and Synagogue

Did you purchase a new TV, VCR, stereo system, radio cassette/disc player/recorder, slide projector, camcorder, camera, etc. and wish to be relieved of your old one? If so, the religious schools and the synagogue would be grateful for your contributions of old audio-visual equipment or even new items if you are so inclined.

Congratulations

Mr. & Mrs. David H. Berman, upon the marriage of their son, Mark J. Berman, to Danya Z. Hoffman.

Mr. Richard & Dr. Janet Samuels, upon the engagement of their daughter, Debra, to Glenn Greenberg.

Kol Nidre Appeal 1993/5754

The Officers and Trustees of the Park Avenue Synagogue thank their fellow congregants for their generous response to the Kol Nidre Appeal.

Thank you:

Mr. & Mrs. Philip Adsetts
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(Kol Nidre Appeal contributors have been listed in the PAS BULLETIN beginning with the September, 1993 issue. Names listed here are for contributions received as of November 5.)

MERCAZ NEEDS YOU

MERCAZ is the American Zionist organization of the Conservative Movement. As such, **MERCAZ** is the only Zionist organization in America concerned with the future of Conservative/Masorti Judaism in Israel.

Conservative/Masorti institutions in Israel do not get the government funding that Orthodox institutions do. The only opportunity for our Movement to receive funds is through the World Zionist Organization where our delegates, **whose numbers are determined by the size of our membership**, have a voice in the funding and decision-making process.

If you are a Conservative Jew, you can no longer ignore the critical need for religious pluralism in Israel and our Movement's approach to religious Zionism. Thousands of new olim (immigrants) as well as veteran Israelis, deserve to be exposed to a meaningful, traditional, non-coercive approach to Jewish life as an alternative to the extremism and fanaticism which have caused so many Israelis to consider themselves "secular" Jews. Israel needs Conservative/ Masorti Judaism to enhance the quality of Jewish life in our homeland.

Please join MERCAZ today, and support our efforts to:

- Ensure religious pluralism in Israel and full recognition of our rabbis, synagogues, mohalim, institutions and programs.
- Encourage electoral reform so that extremist minority parties will no longer wield undue power.
- Determine an equitable distribution of World Zionist Organization/Jewish Agency funding for the Conservative/ Masorti Movement, around the world.
- Promote civil rights including Conservative/Masorti representation on religious councils and full equality for women.
- Support Aliyah and Hebrew language studies.
- Oppose any change in 'Who is a Jew' and 'Law of Return'.

Contact: **MERCAZ, 155 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10010 (212) 533-7800 Ext. 2016**

Rabbi Lincoln's Recent Activities

Rabbi David H. Lincoln recently returned from a lecture tour in Ukraine where he spoke about his book to the faculty of Kiev University (in English). He also conducted services and spoke (in Yiddish) to the Jewish community in Lviv.

In the past month, Rabbi Lincoln met with Prime Minister Rabin and Foreign Minister Peres who were visiting the United States to discuss the peace process.

December's Myriad Events in the Mazer School of Religious Studies

- On Friday, December 3, the Vav grade will have its Friday Night Kabbalat Shabbat Service and Dinner. This event has become a meaningful and joyous way to celebrate Shabbat.
- On Saturday, December 4, the Gimel grade will have its second parent/student "Together" program from 9 to 11 A.M. in Room 308.
- On Saturday, December 4, the Daled grade will conduct the Shabbat Morning Service in the Appleman Chapel from 10 to 11 A.M. for the first time. A special Kiddush for the students and their parents will follow this service.
- On Tuesday, December 7, the Zayin grade will have its second parent/student seminar from 5:15 to 6:30 P.M. in Room 408.
- On Monday through Wednesday, December 6 through 8, our students will visit Book Fair 5754/1993. All parents are also invited to visit the Book Fair with their children.
- From Wednesday, December 8 through Wednesday, December 15, the religious school will celebrate Hanukkah. Students will light candles, sing songs, and have parties in their classrooms.
- On Sunday, December 12, the religious school will hold its annual Zimria from 4:30 to 6:30 P.M. The Zimria has become a wonderful tradition through which the whole school celebrates Hanukkah together and presents a special subject/project involving song, dance, and art.
- From Saturday, December 18, 1993 through Sunday, January 2, 1994, there will be winter vacation. There will be no classes in session.

December Events in the Rabbi Judah Nadich High School

- On Sunday, December 12 at 11:30 A.M., the high school students will help host the Men's Club's annual Project Ezra Hanukkah Luncheon and Party for the Lower East Side's Jewish senior citizens.
- On Wednesday, December 15, the high school students will have their Hanukkah Party.

We Take Pride In

Dr. & Mrs. James A. Goldman, who were members of an ADL group that participated in the First International Conference on Rescuers of Jews During the Holocaust, July 5-9 in Warsaw, Poland. The conference was sponsored by ADL's Jewish Foundation for Christian Rescuers.

Mrs. Hanna Lytle, whose son, Lawrence Lytle, has become president of the Aaron Spelling Television Company, one of the most noted production companies in Hollywood.

WEG Theater Party "Laughter on the 23rd Floor" Thursday, January 13, 1994 8 P.M. - \$60 per person

Nathan Lane ("Guys & Dolls") stars in this hilarious new comedy by Neil Simon. Directed by Jerry Zaks ("Guys & Dolls"), the story takes place in the Writers' Room on 57th Street where a group of comedy writers gather to create the early live TV variety shows. "This celebration of Simon's years with TV genius Sid Caesar is comedy of the old school—it's funny enough to send you home on a stretcher and poignant enough to break your heart." (Durham, N.C. News & Observer) Richard Rodgers Theater, 226 West 46th Street.

Join WEG by calling Sandy Merrill at 472-0386 to reserve your tickets for this upcoming production.

The Melamed Club For Young Jewish Single Men and Women 21 to 39

will sponsor a

Gala Hanukkah Party Wednesday, December 15

7:15 P.M.

The cost will be \$20 per person.

Advance reservations are a must! Please call Mrs. Zimmel at the synagogue office (369-2600) to hold your place for this very popular holiday event!

Judaica Classics



This year, the first Hanukkah candle will be lit after sunset on Wednesday evening, December 8th. Park Avenue Synagogue's new gift shop, *Judaica Classics by Doina*, has all of the necessary accoutrements to ensure that your observance of this joyous holiday will be both memorable and beautiful. It has a large selection of menorahs for every member of the family and for every budget, as well candles, games, dreidels, books, and candies.

The gift shop also has a new line of house gifts for your Hanukkah Party or ski weekend's hostess/host or whatever festivities the month brings.

Also, do you need a special wedding gift? If so, the gift shop has sterling silver bread trays, candlesticks, kiddush cups, picture frames, challah knives and boards, and more. Many are limited edition, signed works of art.

Are you getting married? Let Doina Bryskin help you design your ketubbah!

Please stop in to see the shop's ever changing and increasing selection of Judaica and giftware items for every occasion and in all price categories. You will receive a free box of Hanukkah candles with every purchase.

Health Care Concepts in Jewish Law

While Judaism's concern for the preservation of health is quite clear, it is also clear that our sources did not consider the provision of health care in terms of the enormous scale and level of complexity of America's present health care system. Therefore, a straightforward application of the source material to the American scene would be out of place. Nevertheless, Jewish views on the importance of health and on the distribution of resources add a valuable dimension to current debates on health care reform. Below are a few legal and theological concepts.

Hatzalat Nefashot — The Saving of Human Life: It is a positive commandment to save the life of a person in danger from illness. This duty falls under the general obligation of saving life, which is grounded in a number of biblical verses, including "Thou shalt not stand idly by the blood of your fellow" and "Your fellow shall live by your side." So great is the mitzvah of saving life, that nearly all other religious obligations are subordinate to it: we violate the Sabbath to save a person's life, and there is a general principle in Jewish law that danger to life and health is of greater religious concern than ritual matters.

Bikkur Holim — Visiting the Sick: Judaism recognizes that illness affects the whole person, presenting threats not only to the body but also

to one's mental state and financial stability. Bikkur holim — the mitzvah of visiting the sick — ensures that the needs of the sick are attended to in all of these areas, creating a communal support system to complement the work of medical doctors.

Distribution of Scarce Resources: Judaism places a premium on human life and health and mandates the creation of structures to provide every member of society with access to adequate health care. In situations of scarcity, Jewish insistence on the intrinsic and fundamentally precious value of human life makes triage decisions difficult. Consequently, the rationing of scarce resources in the classical texts is often decided on procedural grounds (e.g., first come, first served) rather than the substantive considerations. (e.g., who is worthier of being saved).

Recently, Jewish scholars, such as Rabbi Elliot, have begun to argue that the cases in the classical sources, which deal with distribution issues among a small number of people, may not be appropriate models for decisions about our society's overall health care system. While individuals are hidden to make all efforts to save human life and forbidden to engage in evaluation of whose life is more worthy to save, Jewish law

(continued on page 6)

Health Care Concepts

(continued from page 5)

does recognize limits to the community's capabilities and offers possible models for the limitation of extraordinary expenditures that threaten to impoverish society.

One such model is discussed in the Talmud in regard to how much a community is required to spend to redeem captives. It is stated that "there is no greater positive commandment than the redemption of captives." Nevertheless, the rabbis decreed that captives should not be redeemed for excessive ransoms, "to prevent abuses." At least one opinion in the Talmud suggests that this decree was made in response to the extreme financial burden placed on the community.

Source: David Rosen, a rabbinical student at The Jewish Theological Seminary of America, and Sarrae G. Crane, Director of the Commission on Social Action and Public Policy, and is reprinted by permission of Rabbi Elliot Dorff.

Save the Date

"Carousel" — June 9, 1994

Join WEG for the revival of the 1948 classical musical "Carousel" at Lincoln Center. It comes straight from its sold-out run in London.

Contributions Synagogue Offerings

Mr. Joshua Aber, in honor of his birthday.
Mrs. Ita Aber, in memory of her mother, Fannie Hersheovich.
Mrs. Robert Adler, in memory of her brother, Michael Zeitlin.
Mrs. Lilyan Appell, in memory of her husband, Bernard Appell.
Mr. Max Barandes, for Yiskor.
Mrs. Fannie Beller, praying for the speedy recovery of Judy Kieval.
Mrs. Fannie Beller, in honor of the new granddaughter of Phyllis Cornell.
Mrs. Fannie Beller, in honor of Vicki Wimpfheimer's birthday.
Mrs. Fannie Beller, in honor of Hilda Davidson's birthday.
Mrs. Frances Berger, in honor of her birthday.
Mr. Daniel Bernstein, in honor of his birthday.
Dr. Paula Bernstein, in memory of her father, Louis Bernstein.
Lynda Blumberg, Dr. David Blumberg, in memory of their father, Irving Blumberg.
Dr. Manfred Brust, in honor of his birthday.
Mrs. Meryl Bryer, in memory of her father, Meyer Wiener.
Dr. Isabelle Cogan, in honor of her birthday.
Dr. Rhoda Cutler, Dr. Ethel R. Cutler, in memory of their father, Samuel Cutler.

Mr. Howard S. Denburg, in memory of his father, Abraham Isaac Denburg.
Marilynn and Elliot Dorff, in honor of David Parker.
Judge Conrad B. Duberstein, in honor of his birthday.
Mrs. Ruth Druss, in memory of her husband, Dr. Joseph Druss.
Mrs. Norman Epstein, in memory of her father, Simon Jacob.
Mrs. Bernard Feinberg, in memory of her father, Jack Salovsky.
Mrs. Susan Fischer, in memory of her father, Dr. Joseph Glatzer.
Mr. & Mrs. Irving Friedman, in memory of Harry A. Forman.
Mr. Joseph Fuhrman, in honor of his birthday.
Mr. & Mrs. Philip Gerard, in memory of Rose Berg.
Mr. & Mrs. Philip Gerard, in memory of Harry & Sadie Nadel.
Dr. Alice Ginott, in memory of her father, Martin Grunfeld.
Mrs. Mary Goldman, in memory of her mother, Ida Gilbert.
Dr. Maurice Goodgold, in honor of his birthday.
Mrs. Paul S. Hall, in memory of her father, Harry Fine.
Mrs. Louise Hamilton, in honor of her birthday.
Prof. & Mrs. Milton Handler.
Mr. Leon I. Heller, in memory of his father, Max J. Heller.
Mr. & Mrs. Lew Hoff, in memory of her mother, Bracha Tubi.
Dr. Michael Jacobs, in memory of his father, Daniel Jacobs.
Bernard & Edith Jankoff, in honor of Mal Eisenberg.
Theresa Jerome, in honor of Irving & Doris Kapner.
Mrs. Armand Joffe, in memory of Raymond Edgar Gerson.
Mr. & Mrs. Amos Kaminski.
Mrs. Robert Katz, in memory of her mother, Lillian Greenberg.
Mr. & Mrs. David Kaufman.
Mr. Gershon Kekst, in honor of his birthday.
Mr. Bernard Klein, in memory of his father, Jack Klein.
Mrs. Irving Klein, in memory of her husband, Irving Klein.
Mrs. Jean Klein.
Mr. Robert Klein, in memory of his father, Daniel J. Klein.
Mr. Norman Kreinen, in memory of his mother, Elizabeth Kreinen.
Mrs. Sylvia Krimko, in memory of her father, Philip Helzel.
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph L. Lehman, in memory of Michael Lehman.
Alexander & Leona Leon, in memory of Fannie Leon.
Alexander & Leona Leon, in memory of the Benjamin and the Leon families.
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Levy, in honor of their wedding anniversary.
Mr. Steven J. Mandelsberg, in memory of his father, Ben Mandelsberg.
Mrs. Jeffrey Mann, in memory of her father, Samuel Pomeranz.
Mrs. Minnie Mittenthal, in honor of the 90th birthday of Hilda Davidson.
Mrs. Minnie Mittenthal, in honor of the 80th birthday of Vicki Wimpfheimer.
Dr. & Mrs. Richard Muchnick, in honor of their wedding anniversary.
Mrs. Joseph Nadan, in memory of her father, Lloyd John Kaufman.
Deena Nelson, in honor of Anita & Stanley Gluck.
Mrs. Rae Nelson, in memory of her husband, Alexander Nelson.
Dr. Brian Pollack, in memory of his father, Jacques Pollack.

Dr. & Mrs. Leon Pordy, in memory of her brother, Marvin Gansberg.
Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Reiner, in honor of their 30th wedding anniversary.
Dr. & Mrs. Henry Rosberger, in honor of their wedding anniversary.
Mr. & Mrs. Nathan Roth, in honor of their wedding anniversary.
Mrs. Spencer Smul, in honor of her birthday.
Mr. Lawrence G. Soicher, in memory of his father, Irving Soicher.
Mr. & Mrs. Clifford Solomon.
Mr. Philip Swartz, in memory of his wife, Hilda Swartz.
Mr. & Mrs. Erwin Tannhauser, in memory of Mrs. Chaya Brust.
Mrs. Sheila Tenenbaum, in honor of Mr. & Mrs. Barrie Modlin's their wedding anniversary.
Mr. Edward Toledano, in memory of his mother, Estrella Toledano.
Beverly Walker and Marc Abitbol, in honor of Cantor David Lefkowitz.
Mrs. Susan Wishingrad, in memory of her husband, Jay Wishingrad.
Dr. Charlotte Yudell, in memory of her brother, Monroe Yudell.
Dr. & Mrs. Jonathan Zeichner, in honor of the Aliyah on Yom Kippur.
Dr. & Mrs. Jonathan Zeichner, in memory of Irving Aaron Bailey.

Committee For The Homeless & Community Outreach

Laurel & Ran Eisenbruch
Mr. Philip Gerard, in honor of his 80th birthday.
Ms. Susan Lizan Guggenheimer, in memory of her aunt, Molly Rosenberg.
Dr. & Mrs. Irwin Kantor
Dr. & Mrs. Neal Kaplan
Mrs. Arline Lane, in memory of her parents, Sidney & Pauline Bickerman.
Mrs. Judith J. Levine
Mrs. & Mrs. Howard Levy
Levy Jewelers, Inc., in honor of the 95th birthday of Pearl Levy.
Ms. Sivia Loria
Ms. Dorothy Loft
Mr. & Mrs. Robert S. Matthews
Ronnie & David Parker, in honor of his being named Hatan Torah on Simhat Torah.
Mr. & Mrs. Herman Parker, in honor of their son David's being named Hatan Torah on Simhat Torah.
Dr. & Mrs. Kenneth Pearlman
Mrs. Helen C. Raticoff
Joan & Robert Rosen
Joann & Sidney Rosoff
Mr. Herman Salz
Mr. Richard & Dr. Janet Samuels, in honor of the engagement of their daughter, Debra, to Glenn Greenberg.
Ms. Jane Slotin, in honor of the 95th birthday of Pearl Levy.
Mrs. Irene Stern
Mrs. Sheila Tenenbaum

(continued on page 8)



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS for DECEMBER, 1993

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|--|--|---|---|---|
| <div>REMEMBER THE DAILY MINYANIM</div> <div>Monday - Friday at 7:15 A.M.</div> <div>Sundays and Legal Holidays at 9 A.M.</div> <div>Sunday - Thursday at 5:45 P.M.</div> <div>Saturday at 4:30 P.M.</div> | <div>THE PARK AVENUE SYNAGOGUE GIFT SHOP - JUDAICA CLASSICS BY DOINA</div> <div>Schedule of Hours:</div> <div>Monday 12 Noon - 6 P.M.</div> <div>Tuesday 12 Noon - 7 P.M.</div> <div>Wednesday 11 A.M. - 6 P.M.</div> <div>Thursday 11 A.M. - 6 P.M.</div> <div>Sunday 10 A.M. - 1 P.M.</div> | <div>THE EDMOND DE ROTHSCHILD LIBRARY</div> <div>Library Hours:</div> <div>Sundays 9:30 - 12:30 P.M.</div> <div>Mondays, Tuesdays Thursdays 3 - 6 P.M.</div> <div>Wednesdays 3:30 - 6:30 P.M.</div> | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| | | | | | <div>6:15 P.M.</div> <div>Friday Night Service</div> <div>Vav Grade Service & Dinner</div> <div>Light Candles 4:09 P.M.</div> | <div>9:15 A.M.</div> <div>Shabbat Service</div> <div>Havurah Service</div> <div>Bat Mitzvah of Emily Gopstein</div> <div>4:30 P.M.</div> <div>Afternoon & Evening Service & Study</div> |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| <div>12 Noon to 5 P.M.</div> <div>Book Fair 5754/1993</div> | <div>12 Noon to 8 P.M.</div> <div>Book Fair 5754/1993</div> <div>7 P.M.</div> <div>WEG Board Meeting</div> | <div>8 A.M.</div> <div>Talmud on Tuesday Morning</div> <div>8:45 A.M.</div> <div>Parents' Association Meeting</div> <div>12 Noon</div> <div>Sisterhood Board Meeting</div> <div>12 Noon to 8 P.M.</div> <div>Book Fair 5754/1993</div> <div>1 P.M.</div> <div>Retirees Group</div> <div>7-9:45 P.M.</div> <div>Sherr Institute Adult Education Courses</div> <div>8 P.M.</div> <div>Men's Club Board Meeting</div> | <div>9 A.M.</div> <div>Jewish Family/Child Workshop Series</div> <div>12 Noon to 8 P.M.</div> <div>Book Fair 5754/1993</div> <div>First Night of Hanukkah</div> | <div>12 Noon to 1 P.M.</div> <div>Lunch & Study Session</div> <div>Second Night of Hanukkah</div> | <div>6:15 P.M.</div> <div>Friday Night Service</div> <div>7 P.M.</div> <div>Men's Club, Couples Club, and Shahhat Dinner Committee Hosted Congregational Shahhat Dinner & Hanukkah Celebration Third Night of Hanukkah</div> <div>Light Candles 4:09 P.M.</div> | <div>9:15 P.M.</div> <div>Shabbat Service</div> <div>Havurah Service</div> <div>Bar Mitzvah of Zia Lennard</div> <div>12:15 P.M.</div> <div>Shahhat Lunch & Lecture</div> <div>4:30 P.M.</div> <div>Afternoon & Evening Service & Study</div> <div>Fourth Night of Hanukkah</div> |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| <div>11:30 A.M.-3 P.M.</div> <div>The Men's Club's Project Ezra Hanukkah Lunch & Party</div> <div>4:30-6:30 P.M.</div> <div>Religious School Zimria</div> <div>Fifth Night of Hanukkah</div> | <div>6:30 P.M.</div> <div>WEG Members Only Hanukkah Party</div> <div>8 P.M.</div> <div>Couples Club Board Meeting</div> <div>Sixth Night of Hanukkah</div> | <div>8 A.M.</div> <div>Talmud on Tuesday Morning</div> <div>1 P.M.</div> <div>Retirees Group</div> <div>7-9:45 P.M.</div> <div>Sherr Institute Adult Education Courses</div> <div>7:30 P.M.</div> <div>PAS Support Group</div> <div>Seventh Night of Hanukkah</div> | <div>11:30 A.M.</div> <div>Sisterhood Annual Gala Luncheon & Fundraising Event</div> <div>12 Noon-5 P.M.</div> <div>Staff Hanukkah Party</div> <div>7:15 P.M.</div> <div>Melamed Club Hanukkah Party</div> <div>Eighth Night of Hanukkah</div> | | <div>6:15 P.M.</div> <div>Friday Night Service</div> <div>8:15 P.M.</div> <div>PASSingles Service & Oneg Shabbat</div> <div>Light Candles 4:10 P.M.</div> | <div>9:15 A.M.</div> <div>Shabbat Service</div> <div>Havurah Service</div> <div>Bat Mitzvah of Rebecca Spinner</div> <div>4:30 P.M.</div> <div>Afternoon & Evening Service & Study</div> |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| | | <div>8 A.M.</div> <div>Talmud on Tuesday Morning</div> <div>1 P.M.</div> <div>Retirees Group</div> | | | <div>6:15 P.M.</div> <div>Friday Night Service</div> <div>Light Candles 4:13 P.M.</div> | <div>9:15 A.M.</div> <div>Shabbat Service</div> <div>Havurah Service</div> <div>4:30 P.M.</div> <div>Afternoon & Evening Service & Study</div> <div>Holiday</div> |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 |
| | | <div>8 A.M.</div> <div>Talmud on Tuesday Morning</div> <div>1 P.M.</div> <div>Retirees Group</div> | | | <div>6:15 P.M.</div> <div>Friday Night Service</div> <div>Light Candles 4:18 P.M.</div> | <div>9:15 A.M.</div> <div>Shabbat Service</div> <div>Havurah Service</div> <div>Bar Mitzvah of Drew Kovacs</div> <div>4:30 P.M.</div> <div>Afternoon & Evening Service & Study</div> <div>Holiday</div> |

Contributions

(continued from page 6)

Mr. Kurt Wimpfheimer, in honor of his birthday.

High School Food Pantry

Mrs. Fannie Beller

Peter, Michelle, Vivian & Daniel Bernstein, in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Wesley Mittman.

Mr. & Mrs. Arthur H. Bienenstock

Meryl E. Wiener & Barry A. Bryer, in memory of Michele Kekst, daughter of our friend Gershon Kekst.

Dr. & Mrs. Alan Davidson

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Delgado, in honor of their wedding anniversary.

Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Feinberg

Dr. & Mrs. Samuel Katz

Irene & Seymour Kunis, in memory of Rose Kleinman.

Mr. Hal Levine, in memory of his mother and father, Mildred Bateman Levine and William Charles Levine.

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Levy

Mr. & Mrs. Jacob Murad

Mr. Menashe Murad

Dr. & Mrs. Kenneth Pearlman

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Rheinstein

Mrs. Bernard Robbins, in honor of her birthday.

Mr. & Mrs. Arnold L. Sabin, in honor of David Parker, Hatan Torah.

Mr. Abraham Stangel

Mr. & Mrs. Nathaniel H. Usdan

Mr. Claude Wachter

Ms. Irene Winkelman, in memory of her father, Louis L. Winkelman.

Ketmacko Library Fund

Dr. Leslie M. Hammel, in memory of his father, Theodore Hammel.

Mr. & Mrs. Leon I. Heller

Library Fund

Mrs. Vicki Wimpfheimer, in honor of her 80th birthday.

Men's Club Educational & Cultural Scholarship Fund

Mr. Herbert Nadler, in honor of his birthday.

Ronnie and David Parker, in appreciation of his honor as Hatan Torah.

Ronnie and David Parker, in memory of Harry Forman, father of Bernice Forman Friedman.

Nursery School Fund

Mr. & Mrs. Irwin Kruger

Mrs. Vicki Wimpfheimer, in honor of her great granddaughter Rachel Abend's 1st birthday.

Prayer Book Fund

The Albert Heller Family, in honor of Hilda Davidson's 90th birthday.

The Albert Heller Family, in honor of Vicki Wimpfheimer's 80th birthday.

The Louis Heller Family, in honor of Vicki Wimpfheimer's 80th birthday.

The Louis Heller Family, in honor of Hilda Davidson's 90th birthday.

Mrs. Joseph Lang, in memory of her mother, Ida Kleiman.

Ronnie & David Parker, in memory of Michele Kekst, daughter of Gershon Kekst.

Ms. Susan Wasserman, for her Aliyah on Rosh Hashanah.

Mrs. Vicki Wimpfheimer, in honor of Hilda Davidson's 90th birthday.

David J. Putterman Music Fund

Mr. & Mrs. Michael H. Putterman, in memory of his mother, Minnie Putterman.

Rita & Alfred L. Rand Fund for Teachers

Mrs. Bernard Elkies, in memory of her father, Sumner Stopnik.

Mr. Gedalia Grinberg, in memory of his mother, Mina Grinberg.

Dr. & Mrs. Richard Libes, in honor of their wedding anniversary.

Rothenberg Ramah Fund

Mrs. Murray Rothenberg, in memory of her father, David S. Empel.

Scholarship Fund

Parents' Association, PAS, in honor of Dorothy Denburg.

Welfare Fund

Mr. & Mrs. Mark I. Finkelstein

Dr. & Mrs. Samuel Katz

Dr. & Mrs. Kenneth Pearlman

Mrs. Rose Spinner, in honor of Rabbi Lincoln.

Mrs. Rose Spinner, praying for the speedy recovery of Mrs. Bette Kanner.

Evalyn Yudkoff Memorial Lecture Fund

Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Bessinger

Beth & Ron Birnbaum

Mr. & Mrs. Irving Friedman

Ms. Rosalie Friedman

Sarah Glick, Hannah Glick

Mr. & Mrs. Paul S. Hall

Mrs. Helen Levine

Mrs. Joan Robbins

William & Elaine Salomon

(Names not listed here will appear in the next issue.)

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December, 1993

Park Avenue Synagogue Bulletin



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